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The Implementation of Unique Item Identification for the Navy's Communications Security Equipment

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                March 2010

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THE IMPLEMENTATION OF UNIQUE ITEM IDENTIFICATION FOR THE NAVY'S COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY EQUIPMENT

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project is to conduct an analysis of Unique Item Identification implementation for the Navy's Communications Security equipment. This project will review the existing inventory process and system. The team will utilize previous papers from Naval Postgraduate School to assist in the evaluation of Return on Investment and the Knowledge Value Added analysis of the implementation.

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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

A&A	Advice and Assistance
AIS	Automated Information System
AIT	Automatic Identification Technology
AL	Accounting Legend
CCIR	Change of Custodian Inventory Report
CMIO	COMSEC Material Issuing Office
CNO	Chief of Naval Operations
CO	Commanding Officer
COI	Course of Instruction
COMFISCS	Commander Fleet & Industrial Supply Center
COMNAVNETWARCOM	Commander, Naval Network Warfare Command
COMSEC	Communications Security
CONAUTH	Controlling Authority
COR	Central Office of Record
CRF	Crypto Repair Facilities
CY	Calendar Year
DFARS	Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement
DoD	Department of Defense
DON	Department of the Navy
DTD	Data Transfer Device
EKMS	Electronic Key Management System
FOC	Final Operational Capability
GAO	General Accounting Office
GFP	Government Furnished Property
ICP	Inventory Control Point
IRST	Inventory Reconciliation Status Transaction
IUID	Item Unique Identification
KMI	Key Management Infrastructure

KP	Key Processor
KVA	Knowledge Value Added
LCMS	Local COMSEC Management Software
LE	Local Element
LMD	Local Management Device
MCPC	Market Comparable Process Cost
MCR	Market Comparable Revenue
NCMS	Naval Communications Security Material System
NSA	National Security Agency
PfM	Portfolio Management
PIPC	Property in the Possession of Contractors
PMHS	Physical Material Handling Segment
POC	Point of Contact
RA	Registration Authority
RFI	Ready for Issue
RFID	Radio Frequency Identification
RIT	Request for Inventory Transaction
ROB	Reserve on Board
ROI	Return on Investment
ROKA	Return on Knowledge Assets
ROKI	Return on Knowledge Investments
SAIR	Semi-Annual Inventory Report
SERVAUTH	Service Authority
UID	Unique Item Identification
UII	Unique Item Identifier
U.S.NDA	United States National Distribution Authority
VDLS	Vault Distribution Logistics System

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I.   INTRODUCTION

The Department of Defense (DoD) considers implementation of Item Unique Identification (IUID) a strategic requirement. This effort is to efficiently move supplies among U.S. and coalition troops. IUID implementation will allow the DoD to improve logistics transactions, consistently control the items purchased, capture their value, and provide property, inventory and financial accountability. Per DoD 4140.1R, IUID, implementation has the potential to provide increased systems operational availability, lowered asset management and infrastructure costs, and yield enhanced visibility to in-transit shipping processes.

This thesis leverages existing studies, teleconferences, DoD policy and mandates, and analysis to determine if the implementation of IUID will yield a Return on Investment (ROI) and value added to an existing automated management system of Communications Security (COMSEC) assets in the Department of the Navy (DON). Existing studies include reports, magazine articles, and papers from the Naval Postgraduate School, which were used to gain insight into IUID technologies and implementation.

Several interviews were conducted to gain a better understanding of COMSEC inventory management procedures and to gather information on the implementation of IUID in the Navy. Interviews were conducted with Ms. Jane Zimmerman, Logistics Automation Manager, from the Commander Fleet & Industrial Supply Center (COMFISCS); Mr. Clifford Henry, Operations Department Head from the Naval Communications Security Material System (NCMS); Mr. Frank Canez; and Mr. Orville Ayers from the San Diego, CA, and Norfolk, VA, Crypto Repair Facilities (CRFs). Additional information was requested from Space and Naval Warfare Systems Center Atlantic (SSC LANT) for the IUID demonstration project for cryptographic equipment within the DON.

The goal of this thesis is to analyze the ROI and value added of IUID implementation to an existing automated management system of COMSEC devices that

support key organizations within the DON and other services. The first objective is to examine the involvement, progress and procedures of organizations that are supporting the DON cryptographic management processes. The second objective is to explore the feasibility of implementing IUID technologies into the current crypto management system. Practicability and compatibility will be determined by examining the existing organizations, current business processes, and information technology systems. The final objective is to provide recommendations for implementation of these technologies in the Electronic Key Management System (EKMS), and to determine the need and way ahead for IUID.

The thesis is divided into chapters that explore the achievability of implementing IUID technologies and their application within the DON cryptographic inventory system. Chapter II discusses the Item Unique Identification policies. Chapter III reviews the organizations, operations, and procedures of the current cryptographic equipment distribution and accountability process. Chapter IV is the analysis of the current process. Chapter V provides an analysis of the ROI of IUID implementation. Finally, Chapter VI concludes with recommendations on the way ahead for IUID implementation as it pertains to COMSEC equipment management.

II. ITEM UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION POLICIES

A. POLICIES

The focus of this project is to examine the personal property component of Unique Item Identification (UID) and is referred to as Item Unique Identification (IUID). The enactment of DoD IUID initiatives was in response to the General Accounting Office's (GAO) criticism of the DoD's ability to control property, plant and equipment, while claiming DoD non-compliance with financial reform legislation (GAO-02-447G, 2003). In order to address the GAO's criticism, the DoD initiated a business transformation process that includes IUID implementation. The Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics mandated the use of UID for all solicitations on or after January 1, 2004, for equipment, major modifications, and spares under the "Policy for Unique Identification of Tangible Items New Equipment, Major Modifications, and Reprocurements of Equipment and Spares." This mandate was an initial step toward uniquely identifying all DoD assets that meet certain cost and management criteria. Additional steps toward this goal include uniquely identifying DoD-manufactured items, as well as those assets currently in service. The objective is to provide accountability and valuation of property, and provide tools to manage historical data, status of personnel and equipment, and inter-organizational relationships. The Navy is in the process of reviewing these policies and working with the National Security Agency (NSA) to determine whether COMSEC equipment will need to comply with these guidelines.

IUID Implementation	Announcement
Policy for Unique Identification (UID) of Tangible Items – New Equipment, Major Modifications, and Reprocurements of Equipment and Spares	U.S. D (AT&L) Memo of July 29, 2003
Contract Pricing and Cost Accounting – Compliance with DFARS 252.211-7003, "Item Identification and Valuation"	U.S. D (AT&L) Memo of July 9, 2004
Policy for Unique Identification (UID) of tangible personal property legacy items in inventory and operational use including Government Furnished Property (GFP)	U.S. D (AT&L) Memo of December 23, 2004
Policy update for Item Unique Identification (IUID) of tangible personal property including government property in the possession of contractors	U.S. D (AT&L) Memo of May 12, 2005
Item Unique Identification (IUID) Standards for Tangible Personal Property	U.S. D (AT&L) Instruction of June 16, 2008

Table 1.　　　Significant Item Unique Identification Policy Memoranda

The Policy Memorandum of July 9, 2004, provides guidance for DoD contracting personnel in the pricing and accounting associated with implementing the DFARS clause 252.211-7003. This policy memorandum states that when new procurements are planned containing items meeting the IUID guidance for marking, DFARS Clause 252.211-7003 must be included in the contract. In addition, the contract must list the items requiring an IUID.

The Policy Memorandum of December 23, 2004, defines step-by-step procedures for IUID management, milestones, procedures, and processes of legacy items in inventory and operational use as well as government furnished property. The key points of the memorandum include:

- Planning guidelines for IUID implementation

- Guidance for preparation of Program Plans

- Establishment of Depot capabilities for management of IUID

- Identification of IUID International standards

- IUID Quality Assurance Standards

- Policy on IUID data for embedded items

- Policy on Virtual Unique Item Identifiers

- Rules for data capture of legacy items

The Policy Memorandum of May 12, 2005, provides updated policy and implementation guidelines, establishes requirements for applying IUID to DoD Property in the Possession of Contractors (PIPC) and provides policy for furnishing government property in general. The key points of the memorandum include:

- Principles for electronic property management

- Milestones for PIPC compliance with IUID requirements

- Direction that all acquisition milestone reviews address IUID implementation

- Revisions to logistics policy to support IUID

- Development of Automated Information System (AIS) to support IUID

- Updated milestone criteria for IUID program plans

- Policy clarification associated with part number changes

A key aspect of implementing IUID for PIPC is the transition away from the paper-based DD Form 1662, DoD Property in the Custody of Contractors, to an electronic PIPC environment using the IUID Registry to report government property in the contractor's possession.

Currently, the Department of the Navy (DON) Cryptographic Program Office is in the process of developing an assessment plan to comply with DoDI 8320.04, Item Unique Identification Standards for Tangible Personal Property, June 16, 2008. SSC LANT was selected as an IUID pilot site to allow a number of items presently in COMSEC account and warehouse inventory to be assessed, marked (generate UII and apply equipment UII marking), and registered. Tagging will:

- Document the process

- Provide detailed lessons learned

- Develop metrics

- Identify/resolve IUID issues

ITEM	SSC-LANT (CAEI)	SSC-PAC (NIEF) w/Govt Fee	Army	Air Force (WPAFB)	Contractor (Camcode)
Number of Labels	81	81	81	81	81
Registration	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Projected Turnaround Time	2 Weeks	7 Weeks	5 Days	5 Days/15 Days	12-15 Work Days
Drawing Included	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Qty Discount	N/A	YES >1,000 (30% discount)	NO	NO	YES (based on Qty)
Material Cost	$167.06	$360.00	$167.06	$282.69	Included in cost per unit fee
Labor Cost	$2,322.23	$1,440.00	$1,440.00	$1,440.00	Included in cost per unit fee
ODC	$483.80	$200.00	$100.00	$100.00	$100.00
Svc Center Fee	$128.83	$169.00	$75.00	$75.00	$75.00
Other Fees	$247.75	$4,449.00	$0.00	$20.00	$1,200.00
Actual Cost per Unit	**$41.35**	**$81.70**	**$22.00**	**$23.68**	**$24.83**
Total Cost	**$3,349.67**	**$6,618.00**	**$1,782.06**	**$1,917.69**	**$2,010.85**

Table 2.   IUID Labels Cost Comparison

SSC LANT solicited cost proposals from five sources to make eighty-one IUID labels. Table 2 summarized the responses from the sources. The Army was the least costly, with the unit price of $22 per label without quantity discount. If the Navy proceeds with tagging all 440,000 items currently in inventory, it would cost $9.7 million just for labels. This cost does not include sending teams to Local Elements to locate the equipment and tag the items, nor does the cost include developing an IUID application interface to the existing EKMS application.

B.   IUID LIFE CYCLE

IUID enables traceability of the item throughout its life within the DoD inventory and maintenance systems. Figure 1 illustrates the IUID life cycle and business rules at each phase.
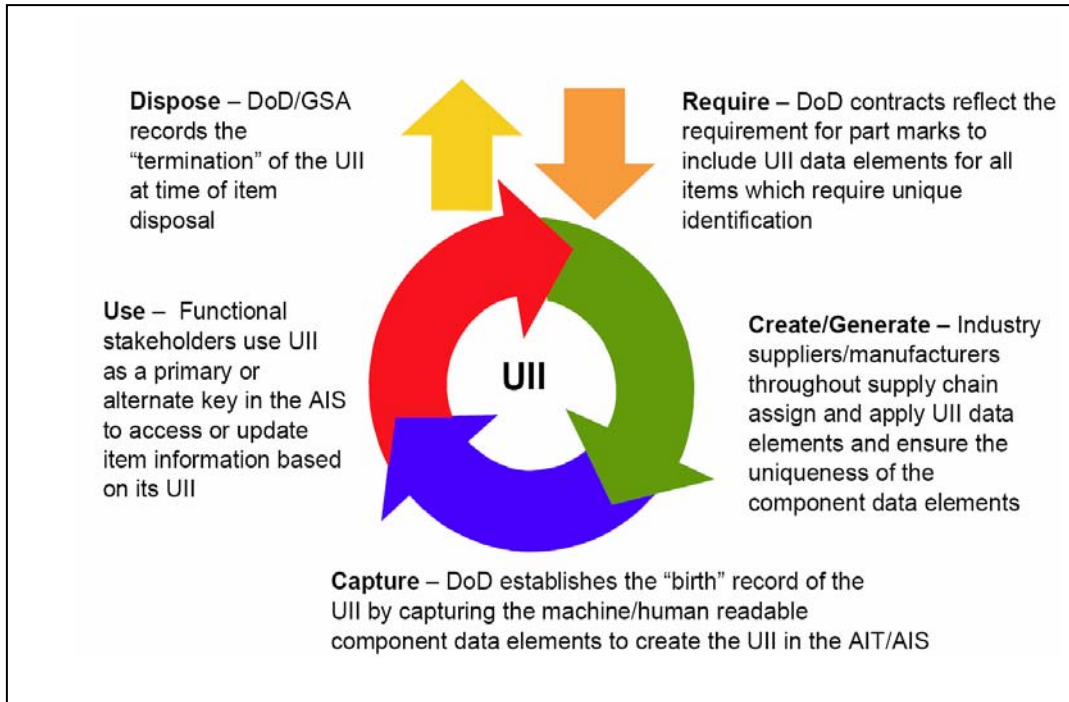
Figure 1.   IUID Life Cycle (From Leibrandt, 2009)

Table 3 compares IUID with the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) initiatives. They are separate but integrated initiatives using different technologies and different business rules.

	IUID	RFID
Mark	Item	Package
Technology	2D Data Matrix	UHF RF w/EPC encoding
Purpose	Life cycle visibility	Supply chain visibility
Threshold	Value > $5000 +	Ship To DDC; Class of Supply
Implementation	1 Jan 04	1 Jan 05
Data Submission	WAWF ASN +	WAWF ASN

Table 3.   IUID and RFID Technology Comparison

C. WHAT ITEMS NEED UNIQUE IDENTIFICATION?

All solicitations, contracts or delivery orders for tangible items delivered to the government will require item unique identification or a DoD recognized unique identification equivalent, if:

- All delivered items for which the government's unit acquisition cost is $5,000 or more

- Items for which the government's unit acquisition cost is less than $5,000, when identified by the requiring activity as serially managed, mission essential, or controlled inventory

- Items for which the government's unit acquisition cost is less than $5,000, then the requiring activity determines if permanent identification is required

- Regardless of value:

  - Any DoD serially managed sub-assembly, component, or part embedded within a delivered item, and

  - The parent item [as defined in 252.211-7003(a)] contains the embedded subassembly, component, or part.

Figure 2 provides a decision tree defining the business rules for determining what items should be uniquely identified. The DoD requiring activity issuing the solicitation is responsible for identifying items for IUID when they are under the $5,000 threshold or are embedded items.

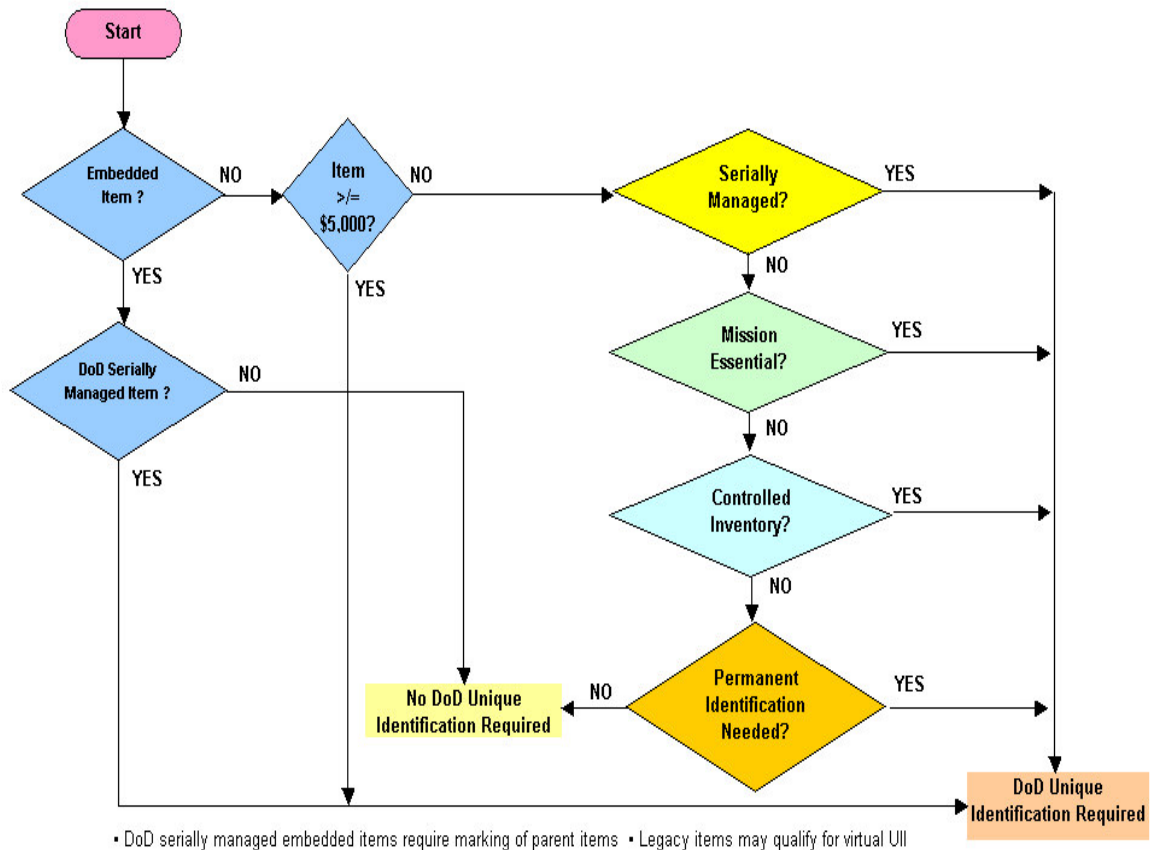Figure 2.   IUID Decision Tree (DFARS 211.274-2) (From Leibrant, 2009)

D.   ITEM UNIQUE IDENTIFIER MARK

The Unique Item Identifier (UII) identifies an item with a set of data that is globally unique and unambiguous. The symbology used for the mark on an item is a two-dimensional (2D) Data Matrix symbol with Error Correction Code 200 (See Figure 3). The UII is encoded into a Data Matrix symbol with a software package.
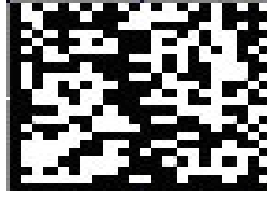
Figure 3.   2D Data Matrix Symbol

Data Matrix symbols have a checkerboard appearance, with each uniformly spaced square shaped cell corresponding to a data bit. They are constructed of a mosaic of light and dark elements that must all be read before any characters can be recognized. Matrix symbols are encoded with a binary code requiring an imager to read them. A Data Matrix can store from 1 to about 2,000 characters. The symbol is square or rectangular and can range from 0.001 inch per side up to 14 inches per side (Leibrandt, 2009).

E.   UII READER

The data matrix symbol requires a 2D imager; they cannot be read using an ordinary linear barcode laser scanner. Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) is the basic building block in the DoD's efforts to provide timely asset visibility. AIT gives the DoD the capability to electronically capture information about items as they move through the operational environment, providing both reliable and accurate data capture and transmission throughout the item life cycle.

The AIT reader will accurately and reliably machine read the data elements and output a UII. The data will be transmitted to a DoD automated information system. The data can then be used as a primary or alternate key across DoD databases (Leibrandt, 2009).

F.   IUID REGISTRY

The IUID Registry is the ultimate repository where all IUID data will be captured. The IUID Registry will serve as an acquisition gateway to:

- Identify what the item is

- Identify who receives the item originally

10

- Identify the initial value of the item

- Identify the contract and organization the item is acquired from

- Intersect with other systems (e.g., property management, logistics, and inventory management) (Leibrandt, 2009).

The National Security Agency (NSA) has a concern with the registration of COMSEC data in one centralized location. The aggregation of data may require the classification of the registry to be at a higher security level.

G. SUMMARY

The desirable end state that DoD envisions is the integration of item data across DoD, federal and industry asset management systems, enabling improved data quality and global interoperability and rationalization of systems and infrastructure. It is expected that unique identification of items will help achieve that goal by:

- Improved item management and accountability.

- Improved asset visibility and life cycle management.

- Enabling clean audit opinions on item portions, Property, Plant and Equipment, Inventory, and Operating Materials and Supplies, of DoD financial statements.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, dated January 2009, "Lack of Key Information May Impede DoD's Ability to Improve Supply Chain Management," determined that although DoD has taken several steps toward implementing IUID and passive RFID technologies that enable electronic identification and tracking of equipment and supplies, the DoD may face challenges achieving widespread implementation because it is unable to fully demonstrate return on investment associated with these efforts to the military components that have primary responsibility for determining how and where these technologies are implemented. Additionally, performance measures are either not being collected or address the status of implementation efforts rather than the effect of implementation. Without the ability to

fully demonstrate that the benefits of IUID and passive RFID justify the costs and efforts involved in their implementation, it may be difficult for DoD to gain the support needed from the military components to make the significant commitments in resources necessary to achieve widespread implementation of these technologies.

III. ORGANIZATIONS AND SYSTEM

There are various organizations and systems involved in the supply and management of COMSEC equipment. As outlined in the "Communications Security Material System Policy & Procedures Manual, 2007," each organization and system has a role in the management process.

COMSEC material is equipment used to protect U.S. government transmissions, communications, and the processing of classified or sensitive unclassified information related to national security from unauthorized persons. COMSEC material consists of online transmitter, receivers, and various encryption and decryption devices, which convert data and vocal transmissions to a form unintelligible to interceptors and then subsequently reconvert the information to its original state. The protection of vital and sensitive information moving over government communications systems is crucial to the effective conduct of government operations.

A. NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY (NSA)

The National Security Agency serves as TIER 0 and is the executive agent for developing and implementing national level policy affecting the control of COMSEC material. NSA is also responsible for the production and distribution of most COMSEC material used to secure communications as well as for the development and production of cryptographic equipment.

B. CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS (CNO)

CNO has overall responsibility and authority for implementing National COMSEC policy within the Department of the Navy (DON) and is the resource sponsor for the DON COMSEC program.

C.   COMMANDER,   NAVAL   NETWORK   WARFARE   COMMAND (COMNAVNETWARCOM)

The Commander, Naval Network Warfare Command, a subordinate command of Commander, Fleet Forces Command, is responsible for implementation of national COMSEC policies and procedures within DON.

D.   NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY MATERIAL SYSTEM (NCMS)

The Naval Communications Security Material System, which reports to COMNAVNETWARCOM, is responsible for tracking COMSEC material from cradle to grave and issues directives, standards, and policies concerning the control and management of COMSEC material for DON. NCMS administers the DON CMS program and acts as the Service Authority (SERVAUTH) for all DON Electronic Key Management System (EKMS) accounts. NCMS also maintains the Central Office of Record (COR) database, which is a central accounting database for all DON COMSEC material.

NCMS performs these specific functions:

- Drafts and publishes COMSEC policy directives, standards, and procedures pertaining to COMSEC material security, distribution, training, handling, and accounting within the DON.

- Operates, maintains, and exercises administrative, operational, and technical control over the COMSEC Material Issuing Office (CMIO) for distribution of COMSEC equipment.

- Develops procedures for and monitors compliance with proper physical storage and account management of COMSEC material.

- Monitors compliance with national standards of the Protective Packaging Program for cryptographic keying material.

- Reviews requests for and authorizes waivers to physical security requirements and the release of DON COMSEC material to contractors.

- Coordinates fleet requirements for the acquisition of all COMSEC material and publication for DON commands.

- Establishes and disestablishes DON EKMS numbered accounts.

- Based on Combatant Commanders' requirements, ensures distribution of COMSEC material to Vault Distribution Logistics System (VDLS) components to ensure quantities are sufficient for EKMS account requirements, exercises, and contingency operations.

- Provides status of Navy COMSEC material to EKMS accounts and planners.

- Provides disposition instructions for DON COMSEC material.

- Evaluates instances of loss, compromise, and procedural violations of COMSEC procedures to determine the adequacy of existing procedures as well as overall compliance with existing policy.

- Manages the CMS Advice and Assistance (A&A) Training Team program within the DON, including training and certification of EKMS Inspectors.

- Conducts liaison and acts as the Technical Advisor with the Navy training community regarding the EKMS Manager Course of Instruction (COI) (V-4C-0013).

- Is the Inventory Control Point (ICP) for COMSEC equipment throughout DON and manages cryptographic equipment assets for DON.

- As the DON Registration Authority (RA), responsible for registering using activities/commands with Tiers 1 and 0 and for assigning EKMS IDs to them. The RA is also responsible for ordering initialization key for Key Processors, and maintaining registration data on its activities/commands.

- FIREFLY POC (Point of Contact) for modern key privileges.

E.   COMSEC MATERIAL ISSUING OFFICE (CMIO)

Receives, stores, and ships Ready for Issue (RFI) equipment and is the Physical Material Handling Segment (PMHS) for Navy in the EKMS.

F.   UNITED STATES NATIONAL DISTRIBUTION AUTHORITY (U.S. NDA)

The U.S. NDA is the consolidated (Air Force, Army, Navy and NSA) COMSEC distribution facility for keying material. U.S. NDA processes and automatically ships Reserve on Board (ROB) material to the DCS delivery address of record for an account.

G.   CONTROLLING AUTHORITY (CONAUTH)

Each item of COMSEC material is controlled or managed by a designated official known as a CONAUTH. A CONAUTH is responsible for evaluating COMSEC incidents and authorizing the issue/destruction of COMSEC material under its control. By definition, a CONAUTH is the command that has designated responsibility for directing the establishment and operation of a cryptonet/circuit and managing the operational use and control of keying material assigned to a cryptonet/circuit.

H.   ELECTRONIC KEY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (EKMS)

A system has been established to distribute, control, and safeguard COMSEC material. The EKMS is a key management, COMSEC material distribution, and logistics support system consisting of interoperable Service and civil agency key management systems. NSA established the EKMS program to meet multiple objectives, which include supplying electronic key to COMSEC devices in a secure and timely manner and providing COMSEC managers with an automated system capable of ordering, generation, production, distribution, storage, security, accounting, and access control. Other features of EKMS includes automated auditing capabilities to monitor and record security-relevant events, account registration, and extensive system and operator privilege management techniques that provide flexible access control to sensitive key, data, and functions within the system. The common EKMS components and standards will facilitate interoperability and commonality among the Services

The overall EKMS architecture consists of four layers, or tiers:

- **Tier 0 (Central Facility)** : The Central Facility is a composite of the National Security Agencies Fort Meade and Finksburg key facilities that provides centralized key management services for all forms of key material.

- **Tier 1**: The layer of the EKMS that serves as the intermediate key generation and distribution center, Central Offices of Record (CORs), privilege managers, and registration authorities for EKMS/COMSEC accounts. Management of the system is a cooperative effort involving the Army, Navy, Air Force, NSA and the Joint Staff (J6).

  - **Common Tier 1 (CT1)** – The EKMS system is the COR for all military service accounts. The CT1 also provides generation and distribution of many traditional key types for large nets. The CT1 comprises of two Primary Tier 1 sites (Lackland AFB, San Antonio, TX and Ft. Huachuca, AZ), one Extension Tier 1 site (Manheim Germany) and other physical distribution handling systems at several service sites.

  - **Servicing Primary Tier 1 Segment (PT1S)** – Term used to refer to the Tier 1 site having primary COR responsibility for a Tier 2 account. There are currently two PT1Ss. One is located at Lackland AFB, San Antonio TX and the other is at Ft. Huachuca AZ. All Army, Air Force, and DON Tier 2 accounts will be serviced by one or the other of these PT1Ss or CORs. The terms "Tier 1" or "servicing PT1S" are synonymous with "COR."

- **Tier 2:** The layer of EKMS comprised of the EKMS Accounts that manage key and other COMSEC material. Most Tier 2 accounts are equipped with a Local Management Device (LMD) that runs

Local COMSEC Management Software (LCMS) and that interfaces with a Key Processor (KP). This suite of equipment is referred to as a LMD/KP.

- **Tier 3:** The lowest tier or layer of the EKMS architecture, which includes the Data Transfer Device (DTD) and all other means used to fill key to end cryptographic units, and hard copy material holdings.
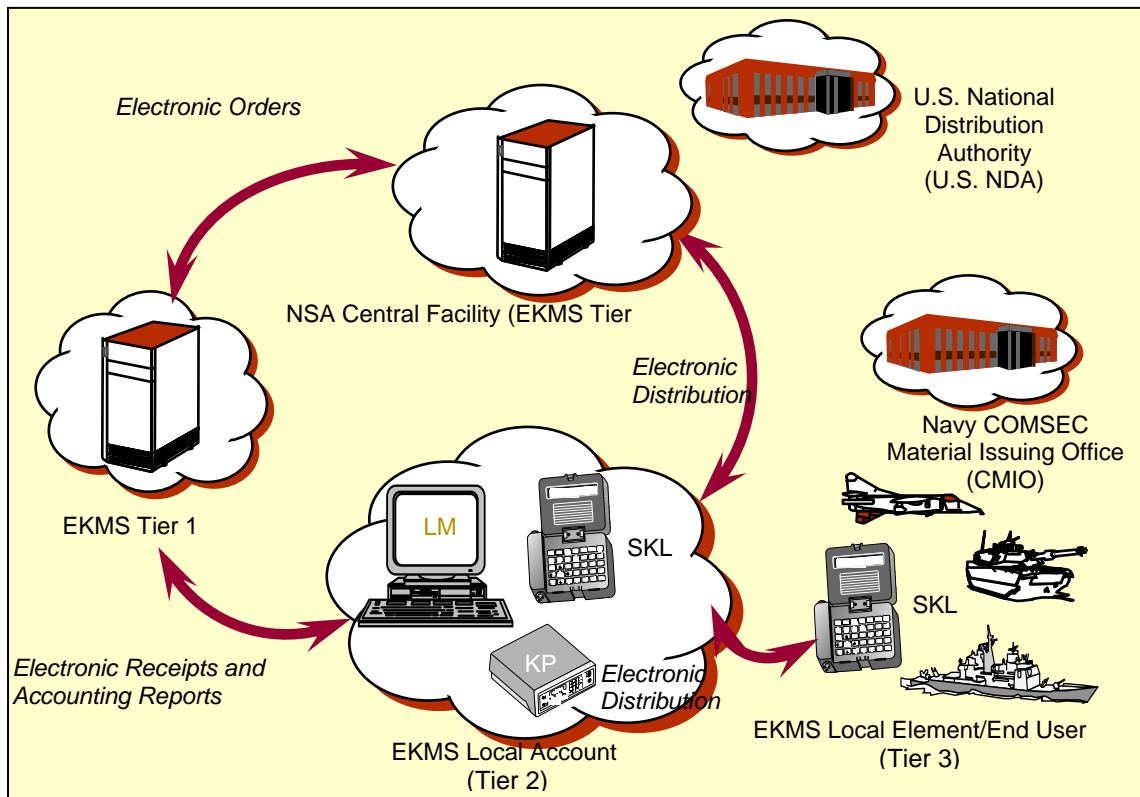

Figure 4.   EKMS Overview Diagram (From McCardle, 2006)

IV. CURRENT NAVY INVENTORY PROCESS

There are three types of EKMS inventories: Semi-Annual Inventory Report (SAIR), Change of Custodian Inventory Report (CCIR), and Combined (CMS Policy and Procedures, 2007).

A. SEMI-ANNUAL INVENTORY REPORT (SAIR)

The purpose of inventories is to ensure that all accounts satisfy the national requirement for a semi-annual inventory of keying material and an annual inventory of equipment and publications.

Twice each calendar year (CY), at six-month intervals as shown in Table 4, and as determined by the EKMS account number, the COR will transmit a Request for Inventory Transaction (RIT) to each account electronically. Once opened, this request will prompt the account to submit a SAIR.

The inventory generated by your account must be sent via the message server, twice a year, to the COR no later than 30 days after the initial request for the inventory is made. Each inventory must be printed and completed in its entirety (i.e., all key, equipment, manuals/publications must be inventoried). If there are no discrepancies, the EKMS system will process the SAIR in its entirety. The inventory will automatically update the accounting data, close out the inventory cycle, and notify the account of the completed inventory reconciliation using the Inventory Reconciliation Status Transaction (IRST). If discrepancies have been identified in the IRST, the EKMS system will notify the COR operator, who will access all available information in the system such as the transaction log/history files and in-transit files and check the status of transferred materials and local transactions to determine whether the discrepancies can be resolved. Once resolved, the system will update and close out the inventory cycle. If not resolved and manual intervention is necessary, the COR will correspond with the account to correct the discrepancies. The COR Manager will assist the account in clearing all discrepancies on the IRST. It is the responsibility of the EKMS Account Manager to pursue resolution of all IRST discrepancies in order to achieve a final reconciliation of

that inventory. The IRST must be reconciled with the COR and all discrepancies resolved or documented to the COR Account Manager within 60 days from the date of the original IRST.

If your EKMS ID number is:	1st FC SAIR for CY:	2nd FC SAIR for CY:
100000 through 158500	January	July
158501 through 199999	February	August
200000 through 258100	March	September
258101 through 299999	April	October
300000 through 358200	May	November
358201 through 399999	June	December

Table 4.   Fixed-Cycle (FC) Inventory Schedule

Example: If your EKMS ID number is 123456, your account is prompted to generate its first FC SAIR in January of each calendar year. The FC SAIR must be completed in its entirety (i.e., key, equipment, and publications/manuals must be inventoried) and sent via the message server to the COR for reconciliation. In July of each year, your account will again be prompted to send a second FC SAIR. All COMSEC material must be inventoried in its entirety (i.e., key, equipment, and publications/manuals must be inventoried) and sent via the message server.

B.   CHANGE OF CUSTODIAN INVENTORY REPORT (CCIR)

The purpose of the CCIR is to satisfy the Navy requirement to conduct and document Change of Command and EKMS Manager inventories. The CCIR must be reconciled by the COR. The account must notify the COR prior to sending the CCIR. The CCIR will be created by the account and send to the COR for reconciliation.

C.   COMBINED SF-153 INVENTORY

This type of inventory may be used sometimes to satisfy both the requirements for a FC SAIR and a CCIR. A FC SAIR may be combined with a CCIR only if the CCIR will not interfere with the command being able to complete a normal SAIR inventory-cycle to the COR no later than 30 days after the initial request for the SAIR was requested.

D.   WHO MAY INVENTORY COMSEC MATERIAL

A CCIR Inventory conducted due to a Change of Manager must be conducted by the outgoing manager and witnessed by the incoming manager. If the outgoing manager is physically incapacitated, the inventory must be conducted by the Primary Alternate Manager of the account and incoming manager. All other inventories must be conducted by the account EKMS Manager or Alternate and a qualified witness. Local Element (LE) Inventories must be conducted by the person having local custody responsible for the material and a qualified witness.

E.   HOW TO INVENTORY COMSEC MATERIAL

Accounting Legend (AL) codes determine how COMSEC material is accounted for within CMCS. Five AL codes are used to identify the minimum accounting controls required for COMSEC material.

AL codes assigned to traditional hardcopy COMSEC material:

- AL Code 1: COMSEC material is continuously accountable to the COR by accounting (serial/register) number from production to destruction.

- AL Code 2: COMSEC material is continuously accountable to the COR by quantity from production to destruction.

- AL Code 4: After initial receipt to the COR, COMSEC material is locally accountable by quantity and handled/safeguarded based on its classification (Top Secret, Secret, Confidential, or Unclassified).

AL codes assigned to electronically generated key:

- AL Code 6: COMSEC material that is electronically generated and continuously accountable to the COR from production to destruction

- AL Code 7: COMSEC material that is electronically generated and locally accountable to the generating facility.

All individuals conducting an inventory must cite the short title, edition suffix, and, if applicable, accounting (serial/register) number of each item of AL Code 1, 2, or 4 COMSEC material held by the command.

Table 5 presents the SAIR Tier 1 Inventory Process:

1. Twice each calendar year, the COR sends a Request Inventory Transaction to a Tier 2 account per the FC SAIR schedule.

2. The Tier 2 account receives and processes the transaction, creating a SAIR with the COR identified as the destination account.

3. The Tier 2 account wraps the generated inventory and sends it to the COR via a secure telephone unit. Tier 2 accounts must send the generated inventory to the COR as soon as possible and must not wait until completing the physical inventory. This must be done within 30 days of the Request Inventory Transaction date.

4. The Tier 2 account prints and conducts the inventory. When completed, the account retains the original copy locally. A copy should be forwarded to the COR only if requested by the COR Account Manager. Accounts need to notify NCMS via record message stating completion of inventory. Retain copy of record message with signed inventory in the chronological file.

5. The COR will respond with an Inventory Reconciliation Status Transaction (IRST), which shows the differences between the COR and the Tier 2 account's databases.

6. The Tier 2 account submits appropriate accounting transactions to the COR electronically, if possible, to clear the IRST. There is no need to line out or to make adjustments to the IRST or to return the IRST to the COR. Items that appear as "Short" mean that the COR has something in the inventory that the Tier 2 does not have in its inventory. Tier 2 will respond by sending the appropriate transfer, destruction, or other accounting transaction to the COR to show why the item or items are no longer held in inventory. Items that

appear as "Excess" mean that the Tier 2 has something in inventory that the COR does not have in its record. The Tier 2 will respond by sending appropriate accounting transaction (e.g., receipt) to the COR.

7. Notice of Reconciliation will not be provided without notification of completed inventory. Failure to complete the inventory will result in a loss of accountability COMSEC incident.

NCMS [Common Tier 1 (CT1) system]	Tier 1 sends "Request Inventory" Transaction to account (via CT1 System)	Electronic
Tier 2 [EKMS Account Manager (ship, Sub, Battalion)]	Tier 2 Process the "Request", create an inventory (30 days) (from the locally maintained database)	Electronic
Tier 2	"Electronically Wrap" and send the inventory to Tier 1	Electronic
Tier 2	Print the inventory and conduct physical inventory	Manual
Tier 2	Don't wait until physical inventory is completed to wrap and send the electronically generated inventory to NCMS	N/A
Tier 1	Tier 1 automatically performs an electronic reconciliation (Line Item-by-Line Item comparison of data)	Electronic
Tier 1	Results given to Account Manager is an IRST (Discrepancy between submitted inventory list and what is being tracked in the CT-1 database)	Electronic
Tier 1 & Tier 2	NCMS (Tier 1) works with the Account (Tier 2) to Clear up discrepancies on the IRST	Labor intensive, Manual Burden

Table 5.   CT1 Inventory Flow Summary (From Henry, 2008)

F.   YEARLY COST OF PERFORMING INVENTORY AT CRYPTO REPAIR FACILITIES

As part of our research, we interviewed supervisors of the Crypto Repair Facilities (CRF) in San Diego, CA, and Norfolk, VA. Currently, the San Diego CRF only has one EKMS account, which is comprised of 9,837 items in inventory. The

Norfolk CRF has a total of 7,860 items for two EKMS accounts. However, the Norfolk CRF has 17 Local Elements within the Hampton Roads area that fall under its area of responsibility. Therefore, in order to perform the physical inventory, the personnel have to travel to the Local Element facilities. The travel time and personnel availabilities at the Local Elements contribute to the longer inventory processing time for Norfolk CRF. Table 6 summarizes the yearly cost of performing the physical inventory at the CRFs. The inventory processing time assumes that there are no inventory discrepancies with the CT1 database. If there are inventory discrepancies to resolve with the COR, the time to track and resolve the issues may increase the overall cost. Due to locality and cost of living expenses, the technician loaded labor rate in San Diego is 37% higher than Norfolk.

	No. of EKMS Accounts	Inv. Qty	Inv. Process Time (Hours)	No. of Personnel	Loaded Labor Rate	Sub Total	Yearly Total
CRF San Diego, CA	1	9837	80	2	$115.00	$18,400	$36,800
CRF Norfolk, VA	2	7860	160	2	$42.00	$13,440	$26,880

Table 6.   Yearly Inventory Processing Cost

In summary, the inventories are generated locally, conducted and signed by the Commanding Officer (CO). Each account retains a hard copy of inventory, electronically wrap inventory and forward to CT1. The IRST is a comparison of the inventory forwarded (electronically) to CT1 and the CT1 database. Upon 100% data match, IRST process is complete and CT1/NCMS will report completion by generating a Message to the account. Account may resume normal Archive Policy upon receipt of this notification and retain Message with CO signed inventory.

V. RETURN ON INVESTMENT OF UID IMPLEMENTATION AT THE CRYPTO REPAIR FACILITIES

A. INTRODUCTION

Portfolio Management (PfM) is the management of selected groupings of investments using integrated strategic planning, integrated architectures, measures of performance, risk management techniques, transition plans, and portfolio investment strategies (IT PfM Directive, 2004.) Portfolio Management within the federal government has become a fundamental business necessity because of legislation such as the Clinger Cohen Act (CCA) of 1996. These Acts provide operational efficiency and effectiveness guidance of investments. In October 2005, DoD issued Directive 8115.01 "ASD(NII)/DoD CIO Subject: "Information Technology Portfolio Management" to provide guidance on the use of portfolio management within the DoD. Portfolio management focuses on five key objectives:

- Defining goals and objectives — clearly articulate what the portfolio is expected to achieve.

- Understanding, accepting, and making tradeoffs — determine what to invest in and how much to invest.

- Identifying, eliminating, minimizing, and diversifying risk — select a mix of investments that will avoid undue risk, will not exceed acceptable risk tolerance levels, and will spread risks across projects and initiatives to minimize adverse impacts.

- Monitoring portfolio performance — understanding the progress your portfolio is making towards achieving of the goals and objectives of your organization.

- Achieving a desired objective — have the confidence that the desired outcome will likely be achieved given the aggregate of investments that are made (http://www.army.mil/ArmyBTKC/gov/pfm.htm, 2009).

Our team leveraged the work on *Integrated Portfolio Analysis: Return on Investment and Real Options Analysis of Intelligence Information Systems (Cryptologic Carry on Programs)* by Dr. Thomas Housel, Dr. Jonathan Mun, and LCDR Cesar G. Rios Jr., of the Naval Postgraduate School, 2006. They applied the Knowledge Value Added (KVA) framework to estimate the ROI on IT investments with an analytical tool set that supports strategic, performance-based investment decisions. Our team also reviewed the thesis on *The Concurrent Implementation of Radio Frequency Identification and Unique Item Identification at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane, IN, as a Model for a Navy Supply Chain Application* by Travis Colleran, Ryan Lookabill, and Ernan Obellos, 2007. KVA methodology is used in this section to conduct a return on investment business case analysis of the UID implementation at the Crypto Repair Facilities.

B.   THE KVA VALUATION FRAMEWORK AND OVERVIEW

The KVA valuation framework not only captures metrics for operating performance, cost-effectiveness and return on investments, but it also incorporates portfolio management techniques to value programs. The KVA framework also takes into account uncertainty and risk in estimating future benefits (Housel, Mun, & Rios, 2006).

The DoD applicability of KVA is focused on the outputs of core processes and subprocesses that provide several products or benefits to include:

- Defines value of specific processes and functions of departments, divisions, or organizations.

- Captures historical data of cost and revenues of specific processes.

- Provides a methodology that will facilitate regulatory compliance in the public sector with legislation (such as the Clinger-Cohen Act of 1996) mandating portfolio management for all federal agencies.

- Uses other portfolio investments by estimating the potential total value created.

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Organizations can use the framework to understand specific processes in terms of the cost of each process and its contribution to the bottom line. In the public sector, government can use the framework to enhance existing performance tools (Housel et al., 2006).

C.   KVA METHODOLOGY

Table 7 summarizes the KVA methodology process. This includes the general data collection process guidelines according to Housel et al.

Data Collection	KVA Methodology
• Collect baseline data • Identify subprocesses • Research market comparable data • Conduct market analysis • Determine key metrics	Step 1: Calculate time to learn Step 2: Calculate value of Output (K) for each subprocesses Step 3: Calculate Total K for process Step 4: Derive Proxy Revenue Stream Step 5: Develop the Value Equation Numerator by assigning revenue streams to subprocesses Step 6: Develop value equation denominator by assigning cost to subprocesses Steps 7, 8 , 9: Calculate metrics: Return on Investment (ROI) Return on Knowledge Assets (ROKA) Return on Knowledge Investments (ROKI)

Table 7.   NPS Valuation Framework

The first step is data collection on processes and subprocesses required to produce an output. After all process data are documented, they are supplemented by market research to compare cost and revenue data to establish baseline information. The KVA methodology is then applied to estimate value and costs for each process. Cost-per-unit of output calculated by KVA, along with price-per-unit of output estimates, provides raw data required for ROI analysis.

According to Housel et al., KVA identifies the actual cost and revenue of a product or service by isolating the value of knowledge embedded in an organization's core processes, employees and IT. The methodology identifies every process required to produce an output. It identifies the historical costs of those processes and the unit costs and calculates the unit prices of products and services. An output is defined as the end result, such as a product or service, of an organization's operations, as shown in Figure 5.
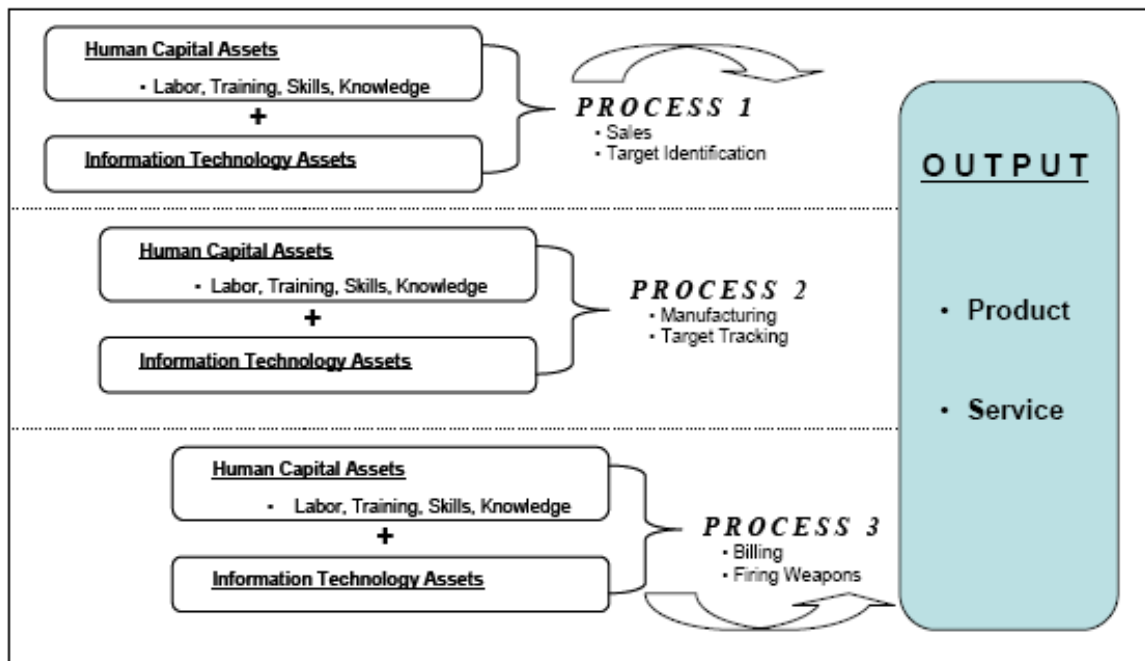

Figure 5.　　Measuring Output (From Housel et al., 2006)

The DoD has applied the KVA methodology within 35 areas, ranging from flight scheduling, ship maintenance and modernization processes. KVA methodology has been used as a performance tool in DoD to:

- Compare all processes in terms of relative productivity.

- Allocate revenues to common units of output.

- Measure value added by IT by the outputs it produces.

- Relate outputs to cost of producing those outputs in common units.

- Provide common unit measures for organizational productivity (Housel et al., 2006).

KVA assumes that humans and technology in organizations add value by taking inputs and changing them into outputs through core processes. The amount of change an asset or process produces can be a measure of value or benefit. Other assumptions include:

- Describing all process outputs in common units (i.e., the time it takes to learn to produce the required outputs) allows historical revenue and cost data to be assigned to those processes at any given point in time.

- All outputs can be described in terms of the time required to learn how to produce them.

- Learning Time is measured in common units of time. Consequently, Units of Learning Time = Common Units of Output (K).

- Common unit of output makes it possible to compare all outputs in terms of cost-per-unit as well as price-per-unit, because revenue can now be assigned at the sub-organizational level.

- Once cost and revenue streams have been assigned to sub-organizational outputs, normal accounting and financial performance and profitability metrics can be applied (Housel et al., 2006).

It is important for a non-profit organization such as the DoD to describe processes in common units because it allows the generation of market comparable data. Market-comparable data from the commercial sector can be used to estimate price per common unit, allowing for revenue estimates of process outputs for nonprofits. This methodology

also provides a common basis to define benefit streams regardless of process analyzed. As depicted in Table 8, KVA differs from other ROI models because it allows for revenue estimates, enabling use of traditional accounting, financial performance and profitability measures (Housel et al., 2006).

KVA ranks processes in terms of the degree to which they add value to the organization or its processes. The ranking enables decision makers to identify what processes add value—those that will most likely accomplish a mission, deliver a service, or meet customer demand. Value is quantified in four key metrics: Return-on-Knowledge (ROK), Return on Knowledge Assets (ROKA), Return on Knowledge Investment (ROKI) and Return on Investment (ROI).

Traditional Accounting		KVA Process Costing	
Compensation	$5,000	Review Task	$1,000
Benefits/OT	1,000	Determine Op	1,000
Supplies/Materials	2,000	Input Search Function	2,500
Rent/Leases	1,000	Search/Collection	1,000
Depreciation	1,500	Target Data Acq	1,000
Admin. And Other	900	Target Data Processing	2,000
Total	$11,400	Format Report	600
		Quality Control Report	700
		Transmit Report	1,600
		Total	$11,400

Explains what was spent — *Explains how it was spent*

Table 8.   Comparison of Traditional Accounting versus Process Based Costing
(From Housel et al., 2006)

D.   QUANTIFICATION OF KVA VALUE AND COST DATA

Our thesis team used the KVA methodology to quantify the value of implementing UID technology with the Electronic Key Management System. The efficiency and effectiveness of the inventory process were measured by comparing the values created by human capital elements and UID technology elements utilized in

inventory processes. The identification of processes and subprocesses provided the foundation for the value measurement, quantification and analysis.

Process outputs are determined by "amount of time to learn" estimates and include the total aggregate process outputs and a revenue stream used to monetize the outputs. The analysis of all subprocesses includes time-to-learn, how-to perform, and the number of times each subprocess is accomplished.

Allocation of asset value and cost is distributed within all subprocesses in which a product was contributed. The revenue allocated at the subprocess level was computed by multiplying the "time-to-learn" by the number of personnel involved, the number of times the subprocess was repeated and the market comparable revenue. The revenue allocated at the subprocess level serves as the baseline for revenue allocation (Housel et al., 2006).

In this analysis, the yearly salary of a GS-12, Step 5, employee was converted to an hourly wage and used to represent the Market Comparable Revenue (MCR) value for each subprocess accomplished by the Tier 1 Administrator. This logic was also applied in using the yearly salary of a GS-10, Step 5, employee to represent the MCR value for each subprocess accomplished by the Inventory Clerk. Summing the values computed for each subprocess leads to the total revenue of the entire inventory process. Multiyear totals are computed by multiplying the total annual revenue by the number of years. Five years was used in this study to represent the number of EKMS life-usefulness before transition to the next generation Key Management Infrastructure (KMI) System.

Cost allocated to each subprocess in the inventory process was computed by multiplying the Work Time (actual time performing task) by the number of personnel involved, the number of times the subprocess was repeated and the market comparable cost. The salary rate of a GS-12, Step 5, and GS-10, Step 5, were applied as before to represent the Market Comparable Process Cost (MCPC).

The output of each subprocess in terms of Knowledge Units was calculated by adding the Knowledge Amount Embedded in Information Technology percentage value

to the product of estimated learning time (ALT) and the number of employees involved in the subprocess. Total output is computed by summing the Knowledge Units of each subprocess within the overall Inventory Process.

The ROK productivity ratios were computed with Total MCR in the numerator and Total MCPC in the denominator. ROI financial ratios were calculated with Total MCPC minus Total MCPC in the numerator and Total MCPC in the denominator.

In order to analyze the benefits of automation in the inventory workflow process, this study compared the current "As Is" inventory process with the recommended "To Be" inventory process. The "As Is" process is a basic, highly automated inventory operation and the "To Be" process assumes UID implementation in that inventory operation. The "As Is" and "To Be" inventory subprocesses are listed in Table 9, with the improved or eliminated subprocesses indicated in bold italics.

"As Is" Inventory Sub-Processes	"To-Be" Inventory Sub-Processes
1. Tier 1 sends "Request Inventory" Transaction to account (via CT-1 System)	1. Tier 1 sends "Request Inventory" Transaction to account
2. Tier 2 Clerk creates an inventory from the locally maintained database	2. Tier 2 Clerk conducts inventory with handheld device and data is transmitted wirelessly to Tier 1.
3. Tier 2 Clerk "Electronically Wrap" and sends the inventory to Tier 1	3. Tier 1 performs electronic reconciliation
4. Tier 2 Clerk prints the inventory and conducts physical inventory	4. Tier 1 sends discrepancy report
5. Tier 1 automatically performs an electronic reconciliation (Line Item-by-Line Item comparison of data)	5. Tier 2 resolve discrepancies and data is transmitted wirelessly to Tier 1.
6. Tier 1 electronically sends discrepancy report to Account Manager	6. Tier 1 records inventory as "Completed"
7. Tier 2 to locate/clear up discrepancies	
8. Tier 2 Clerk "Electronically Wrap" and sends the inventory to Tier 1	
9. Tier 1 to clear up discrepancies with CT-1 database	
10. Tier 1 records inventory as "Completed"	

Table 9.   CRF "As Is" and "To Be" Inventory Subprocesses. The Improved or Eliminated Subprocesses are Indicated in Bold Italics.

E. ANALYSIS OF WORKFLOW PROCESSES WITH KVA

1. "As Is" Inventory Process Analysis

Analysis of the current inventory process reveals that subprocesses using EKMS system provides high KVA to the Navy's crypto inventory operations. Overall, the Navy has a highly automated and efficient system in place for managing COMSEC equipment. However, subprocesses such as conducting inventory and time spent on clearing up discrepancies provide minimal KVA. These subprocesses are not automated and are extremely labor intensive. Another area of potential improvement is the elimination of the local database. As presented in Table 10, the calculated ROK and ROI for the inventory process is 15 percent and negative 85 percent using a five-year period until EKMS end of life. Based on the analysis, subprocesses 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9 in Table 10 can be more efficient with UID technology implementation.

Steps	Estimated Learning Time (ALT) (hrs)	Work Time	No. of Employees	Number of times task completed (Annual)	Sum of task completion (Annual)	Knowledge Amt Embedded in IT (%)	Amt of Knowledge Units (per task)	Total Amt of Knowledge Units (Annual)	% Total Knowledge	Market Comparable Revenue	Total Market Comparable Revenue (Annual)	Process Cost	Total Process Cost (Annual)	ROK
	A	B	C	D	E=A*C*D	F	G=(A*C)+F	H=E*G	I=G/TotalG	J	K=E*J	L=B*J	M=E*L	N=J/L
1. Tier 1 sends "Request Inventory" Transaction to account	1	0.25	1	2	2	90.0	91	182	12%	$34.51	$69.02	$8.63	$17.26	400%
*2. Tier 2 Clerk creates an inventory from the locally maintained database	1	0.25	1	2	2	90.0	91	182	12%	$26.21	$52.42	$6.55	$13.11	400%
*3. Tier 2 Clerk "Electronically Wrap" and sends the inventory to Tier 1	0.5	0.25	1	2	1	90.0	90.5	90.5	12%	$13.11	$13.11	$3.28	$3.28	400%
*4. Tier 2 Clerk prints the inventory and conducts physical inventory	0.5	16	2	2	2	0.0	1	2	0%	$13.11	$26.21	$209.68	$419.36	6.25%
*5. Tier 1 automatically performs an electronic reconciliation (Line Item-by-Line Item comparison of data)	0.5	0.5	1	2	1	90.0	90.5	90.5	12%	$17.26	$17.26	$8.63	$8.63	200%
6. Tier 1 electronically sends discrepancy report to Account Manager	0.5	0.25	1	2	1	90.0	90.5	90.5	12%	$17.26	$17.26	$4.31	$4.31	400%
*7. Tier 2 to locate/clear up discrepancies	1	16	2	2	4	0.0	2	8	0%	$26.21	$104.84	$419.36	$1,677.44	6.25%
*8. Tier 2 Clerk "Electronically Wrap" and sends the updated inventory to Tier 1	0.5	0.25	1	2	1	90.0	90.5	90.5	12%	$13.11	$13.11	$3.28	$3.28	400%
*9. Tier 1 to clear up discrepancies with CT-1 database	1	8	1	2	2	90.0	91	182	12%	$34.51	$69.02	$276.08	$552.16	12.50%
10 Tier 1 records inventory as "Completed"	0.5	0.25	1	2	2	90.0	90.5	181	12%	$17.26	$34.51	$4.31	$8.63	400%

Table 10. "As Is" Inventory Process Analysis

2.   **"To Be" Inventory Process Analysis**

The analysis from Table 11 shows the potential increase in productivity and efficiency after UID implementation. In this scenario, the seven steps identified in Table 10 are replaced or improved with UID technology. The technology potentially reduces the overall annual inventory process cost from $2,708.00 to $286.00. The productivity ratio (ROR) increased by 30%.

In summary, the implementation of UID technology increased output in terms of operations efficiency, efficient use of personnel resources, elimination of multiple databases, and improve total visibility of material. Even though there is not a high return on investment with UID implementation, the Navy can significantly realize savings in labor and time required to conduct inventories.

Steps	Estimated Learning Time (ALT) (hrs)	Work Time	No. of Employees	Number of times task completed (Annual)	Sum of task completion (Annual)	Knowledge Amt Embedded in IT (%)	Amt of Knowledge Units (per task)	Total Amt of Knowledge Units (Annual)	% Total Knowledge	Market Comparable Revenue	Total Market Comparable Revenue (Annual)	Process Cost	Total Process Cost (Annual)	ROK
	A	B	C	D	E=A*C*D	F	G=(A*C)+F	H=E*G	I=G/TotalG	J	K=E*J	L=B*J	M=E*L	N=J/L
1. Tier 1 sends "Request Inventory" Transaction to account	1	0.25	1	2	2	90.0	91.00	182.00	16%	$34.51	$69.02	$8.63	$17.26	400%
2. Tier 2 Clerk conducts inventory with handheld device and data is transmitted wirelessly to Tier	0.5	8	2	2	2	95.0	96.00	192.00	17%	$13.11	$26.22	$104.88	$209.76	12.50%
3. Tier 1 performs electronic reconciliation	0.25	0.25	1	2	0.5	90.0	90.25	45.13	16%	$8.63	$4.31	$2.16	$1.08	400%
4. Tier 1 sends discrepancy report	0.25	0.25	1	2	0.5	90.0	90.25	45.13	16%	$8.63	$4.31	$2.16	$1.08	400%
5. Tier 2 resolve discrepancies and data is transmitted wirelessly to Tier 1.	0.25	8	2	2	1	95.0	95.50	95.50	17%	$6.55	$6.55	$52.42	$52.42	12.50%
6. Tier 1 records inventory as "Completed"	0.5	0.25	1	2	1	90.0	90.50	90.50	16%	$17.26	$17.26	$4.31	$4.31	400%
Totals	2.75	17		12	7		553.50	650.25		$88.68	$127.68	$174.56	$285.91	

	5 Year Total	$638.38		$1,429.53

ROR (Total K/ Total M)= 45%

ROI ((Total K-Total M) / Total M= -55%

Table 11.   "To Be" Inventory Process Analysis

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VI. SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. SUMMARY

The implementation of UID technology in military supply chain operations was mandated by the DoD in 2003, but to date very few Navy organizations have complied with these directives. Adoption of the UID will enable the Navy COMSEC community to successfully fulfill the DoD's UID mandates.

This project presented a review of UID technology that provided the reader a thorough background of what the technology may bring to process improvement within the DoD sector. It covered technology, policy, organizations, and system. The project then presented the current COMSEC inventory management process and analyzed current cost of performing inventory.

IUID implementation increases the output of the inventory process while improving the accuracy of that output. The automation of certain subprocesses creates efficiency and reduces the amount of time to complete the subprocess. IUID implementation translates to improved efficiency, as both the amount and value of the output are enhanced. This leads to less time and resources wasted in rework and recounting. The time and resources available for other tasking and customer service is also increased.

To express the potential cost savings with IUID implementation, the team chose KVA analysis as a means to demonstrate a return for this IT investment. The analysis proved that IUID implementation increases productivity and efficiency, and potentially eliminates the need to maintain multiple local databases of COMSEC equipment. However, the initial investment cost for identifying, tagging, and registering legacy COMSEC material may be too high for the Navy to gain ROI within an acceptable time frame.

B.   RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to EKMS transition to the next generation Key Management Infrastructure (KMI) System in 2014, the thesis team does not recommend the Navy implement engineering change proposals to EKMS in order to have an application interface with IUID technology at this time.

Therefore, the team recommends a more detailed business case analysis be performed by the Navy Crypto Modernization Program Office. The business case analysis needs to address:

- Defining what items need to be accounted in inventory

- Manufacturing methods of IUID labels

- Tagging and registering in the national database

- Working with NSA and OSD in determining the classification level of the national database due to sensitivity of data aggregation

- Working with KMI Program Office to develop the engineering change proposals to design an IUID application interface with the system

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